

**City of Harrington
MINUTES
City Council Meeting
September 28, 2015**

Open Forum

Barbara Bullock stated that public comments are not responded to and that people do not attend meetings, because they have no input into them. Mayor Moyer stated that the idea is to point the resident in the right direction.

James Cooke stated that he is new to town.

Cheryl Lahman congratulated the City Manager on the City Manager of the Year award and stated that it is big news for Harrington.

A meeting of the Harrington City Council was held at Harrington City Hall, 106 Dorman Street, on September 28, 2015 and was attended by the following: Mayor Anthony R. Moyer; Vice Mayor Duane E. Bivans; Council Member Fonda Coleman; Council Member Eric Marquis; Council Member Amy Minner; Council Member Charles W. Porter; Council Member Kenneth W. Stubbs; Norman Barlow, Chief of Police; Dean Gary, Accountant; and Kelly Blanchies, Clerk of Council.

Also present: Barb Bullock; Cheryl Lahman; Jason Dean; and James Cooke.

Mayor Moyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Invocation was given by Vice Mayor Bivans.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Roll was called.

Red Ribbon Week Proclamation

Mayor Moyer read the proclamation for Red Ribbon Week, October 23-31, 2015.

Minutes

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Marquis, to approve the minutes for the August 3, 2015 City Council Special Meeting, August 3, 2015 City Council Workshop, and August 17, 2015 City Council Meeting as presented. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Financial Report

Council Member Minner asked that the Harrington Retail Center be removed from the City Planner's report since the plan has expired.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Coleman, to file the Financial Report for audit. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Old Business

Public Hearing on Ordinance 15-11 – Amending Chapter 440, Zoning, related to signage

The Clerk of Council stated that one section was removed from the ordinance since the first reading, because the City Planner's office thought that it was confusing. Council Member Marquis asked if it is the section to be discussed at the workshop. The Clerk of Council stated that Ordinance 15-11 only clarifies existing regulations.

Jason Dean stated that what is asked for on a site plan is excessive and will be expensive to provide. Miss Utility will locate utilities, so the owner should not have to; parking spaces and entrances should not have to be indicated either. Mayor Moyer stated that it is a safety issue.

Mr. Dean stated that charts would make the information easier to read and that all structures should not have to be shown on the site plan. He has not totaled the square footage on a building permit application and had it returned to him to be completed.

Mayor Moyer asked that Mr. Dean present solutions for the issues he has at the next meeting of Council.

Second Reading of Ordinance 15-11 – Amending Chapter 440, Zoning, related to signage

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Stubbs, to dispense with the reading of Ordinance 15-11. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Mayor Moyer read the synopsis of Ordinance 15-11:

This Ordinance amends Chapter 440 to clarify sign regulations, correct references, and clarify requirements for Zoning Compliance Certificates for signage projects.

Council Member Porter stated that the Zoning Code is a working document and can be changed at any time.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Stubbs, to accept the second reading of Ordinance 15-11.

Discussion occurred regarding when additional changes to the Zoning Chapter would be discussed.

Council Member Porter asked that sign companies be contacted to inform them that the signage regulations are being discussed again. The Clerk of Council stated that when the Zoning Code was being considered, invitations for comments were sent to sign companies and engineering firms.

A vote was called for on the motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance 15-11. The MOTION passed unanimously.

New Business

Mill Street parking on one side only

Mayor Moyer stated that this is a safety issue and that there is off street parking available on one side of the street. The Chief of Police stated that people will be notified once the City Council approves the change.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Minner, to make Mill Street parking on one side only. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Filling vacant full time position

The Clerk of Council read a memo from the City Manager stating that a scanning assistant is needed to scan old minutes, ordinances, and property maintenance files, and since there is a full time vacancy and the City Council did not want to hire a part time Public Works employee, there are funds available. Mayor Moyer stated that this is work that needs to be done.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Marquis, to make the part time Administrative Assistant full time, to approve four (4) hours per week for the police accreditation worker, and to approve the hiring of the part time scanning assistant.

Vice Mayor Bivans asked if the action form needed to be revised. Mayor Moyer stated no.

Roll was called on the motion to make the part time Administrative Assistant full time, to approve four (4) hours per week for the police accreditation worker, and to approve the hiring of the part time scanning assistant: 6 Yes, 0 No (Bivans – Yes, Coleman – Yes, Marquis – Yes, Minner – Yes, Porter – Yes, Stubbs – Yes). The MOTION passed unanimously.

Set trick-or-treat date and time

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Minner, to set the time for trick-or-treating in the City of Harrington to 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, 2015, for children twelve (12) and younger. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-10 – USDA grant for purchase of a police vehicle

The Clerk of Council stated that this resolution is required to receive a grant from the USDA.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Stubbs, to dispense with the reading of Resolution 15-R-10. The MOTION passed unanimously.

The Chief of Police stated that the grant will pay for thirty-five percent (35%) of the cost of the vehicle but does not have to be spent immediately.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Minner, to accept Resolution 15-R-10. The MOTION passed unanimously.

First Reading of Ordinance 15-12 – Amending Chapter 180, Municipal Fees, related to Disorderly Premises

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Stubbs, to suspend the reading of Ordinance 15-12. The MOTION passed by majority. Council Member Minner voted against the motion.

Mayor Moyer read the synopsis of Ordinance 15-12:

This Ordinance amends the Municipal Fees for the City of Harrington to add fines for violating the Disorderly Premises Chapter.

Council Member Porter asked how the amounts were determined. The Clerk of Council stated that they came from the City Solicitor.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Marquis, seconded by Council Member Porter, to accept the first reading of Ordinance 15-12. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-11 – Authorizing short-term borrowing for inflow and infiltration repairs to the sanitary sewer system

Mayor Moyer stated that the USDA requires short term borrowing as a construction bridge loan before they will pay out.

Mayor Moyer read Resolution 15-R-11.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Coleman, to accept Resolution 15-R-11.

Council Member Minner asked if there were any penalties for paying the loan off early. The Accountant replied no.

Roll was called: 6 Yes, 0 No (Bivans – Yes, Coleman – Yes, Marquis – Yes, Minner – Yes, Porter – Yes, Stubbs – Yes). The MOTION passed unanimously.

City Council Comments

Mayor Moyer read a letter thanking the City Council for not rezoning a property.

Council Member Porter stated that the State recognized the City for keeping the website up-to-date.

Mayor Moyer stated that there were over one hundred forty (140) trucks in the truck convoy for Special Olympics.

Vice Mayor Bivans stated that the City Council needs to redefine what is an open forum versus public comments and that he does not agree with the two (2) minute limit per person. Council Member Marquis stated that from what he has read in Freedom of Information Act opinions from the Attorney General's Office, there is no problem with the City Council answering questions during the open forum before the meeting starts, and there should be public comments at the end of the meeting.

Vice Mayor Bivans stated that the City needs to push the railroad more to make progress on the railroad station. Mayor Moyer stated that the City has no jurisdiction over the railroad.

Vice Mayor Bivans thanked Mr. Cooke for moving to Harrington and coming to the Council Meeting and stated that the Police Night Out is on October 8 and a town hall meeting on a curfew is on October 12.

Mayor Moyer stated that people like the robo calls.

Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

There being no further business, a MOTION was made by Council Member Minner, seconded by Council Member Porter, to adjourn the City Council Meeting. The MOTION passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly Blanchies", written in a cursive style.

Kelly Blanchies
Clerk of Council